

SEARCH

☐ The Web

☐ CNN.com

Search

Powered by YAHOO! search

Home Page

World

U.S.

Weather

Business

Sports

Politics

Law

Technology

Science & Space

Health

Entertainment

Travel

Education

Special Reports

Autos

**Mortgage Rates
Hit Record Lows!**

Click your rate

5.99% & Below

6.00% - 6.99%

7.00% & Above

©2005 LowerMyBills, Inc.

Lower My Bills

SERVICES

Video

E-mail Newsletters

Your E-mail Alerts

RSS

CNNtoGO

TV Commercials

Contact Us

SEARCH

Web

☐ CNN.com

☐

Search

Powered by YAHOO! search

U.S.

Pentagon: Rumsfeld misspoke on Flight 93 crash

Defense secretary's remark to troops fuels conspiracy theories

From Jamie McIntyre
CNN Washington

Monday, December 27, 2004 Posted: 9:54 PM EST (0254 GMT) Monday, December 27, 2004 Posted: 9:54 PM EST (0254 GMT)

WASHINGTON (CNN) -- A comment Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld made during a Christmas Eve address to U.S. troops in Baghdad has sparked new conspiracy theories about the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

In the speech, Rumsfeld made a passing reference to United Airlines Flight 93, which crashed in Pennsylvania after passengers attempted to stop al Qaeda hijackers.

But in his remarks, Rumsfeld referred to the "the people who attacked the United States in New York, shot down the plane over Pennsylvania."

A Pentagon spokesman insisted that Rumsfeld simply misspoke, but Internet conspiracy theorists seized on the reference to the plane having been shot down.

"Was it a slip of the tongue? Was it an error? Or was it the truth, finally being dropped on the public more than three years after the tragedy" asked a posting on the Web site WorldNetDaily.com.

Some people remain skeptical of U.S. government statements that, despite a presidential authorization, no planes were shot down September 11, and rumors still circulate that a U.S. military plane shot the airliner down over Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

A Pentagon spokesman insists Rumsfeld has not changed his opinion that the plane crashed as the result of an onboard struggle between passengers and terrorists.

The independent panel charged with investigating the terrorist attacks concluded that the hijackers intentionally crashed Flight 93, apparently because th



Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld referred to the people who "shot down the plane over Pennsylvania."

advertiser links

[what's this?](#)

[Save on All Your Calls with Vonage](#)

When looking for local regional and long distance calling, use Vonage to make...

www.vonage.com

[\\$160,000 Mortgage for \\$633/mo](#)

Refinance rates are at record lows. Compare rates - free service.

www.lowermybills.com

[Road Runner High Speed Internet](#)

Get Road Runner: \$29.95/month for 6 months. \$40 cash back and free installation....

www.roadrunneroffers.com

[LendingTree.com - Official Site](#)

Lendingtree - Find a mortgage, refinance, home equity or auto loan now. Receive...

www.lendingtree.com

feared the passengers would overwhelm them.



[International Edition](#)

Languages 

[CNN TV](#)

[CNN International](#)

[Headline News](#)

[Transcripts](#)

[Advertise With Us](#)

[About Us](#)

SEARCH

[The Web](#)



[CNN.com](#)



Search



Powered by

© 2005 Cable News Network LP, LLLP.

A Time Warner Company. All Rights Reserved.

[Terms](#) under which this service is provided to you.

Read our [privacy guidelines](#). [Contact us](#).



All external sites will open in a new browser.
CNN.com does not endorse external sites.



Denotes premium content.



Add [RSS headlines](#).